



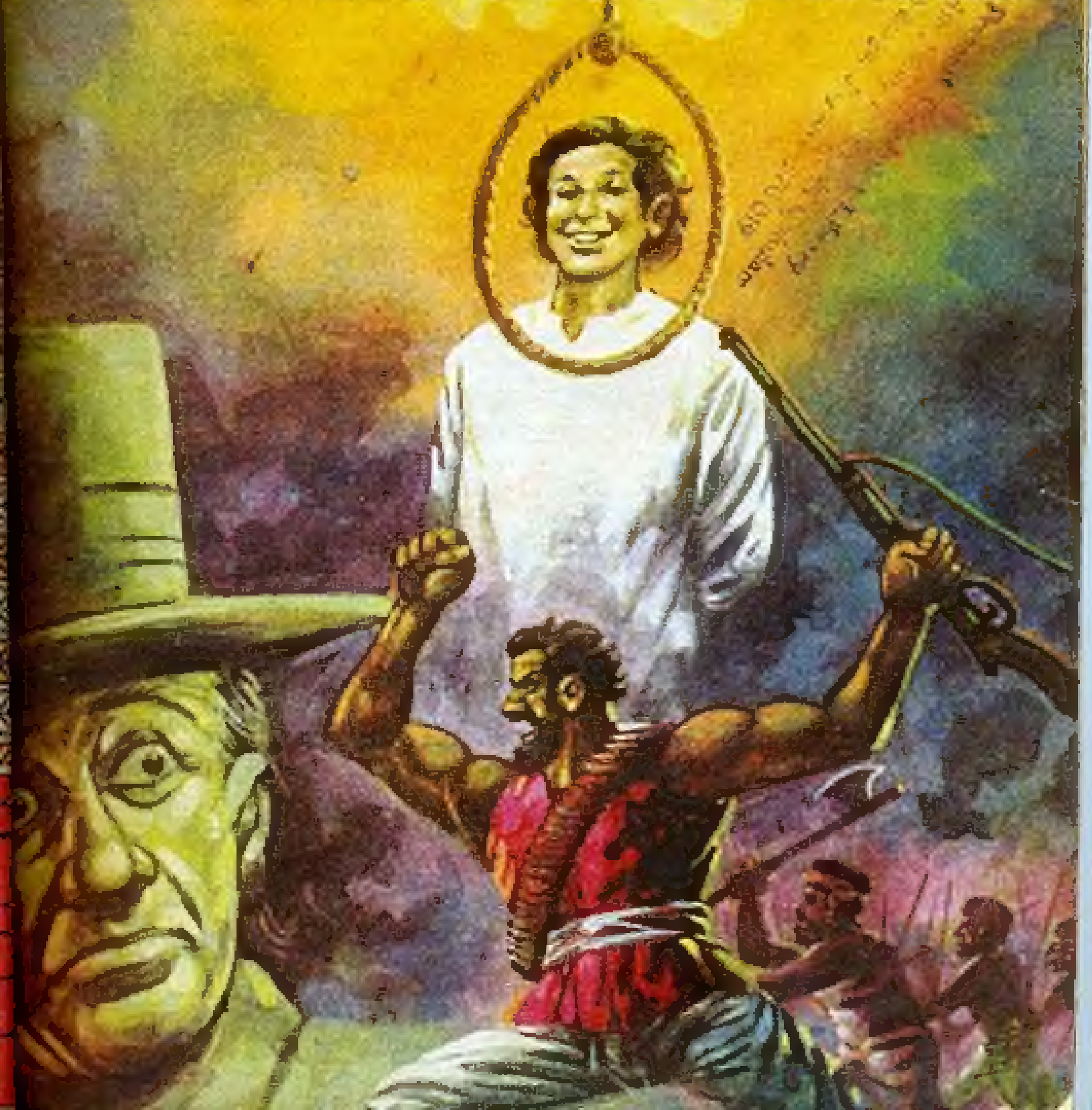
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THE MARCH TO FREEDOM - 3

*The Saga of*

**INDIAN**

**REVOLUTIONARIES**



## Amar Chitra Katha

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## The Saga of INDIAN REVOLUTIONARIES

The Swadeshi Movement, aiming at the boycott of British goods in India, gradually gave way to more violent methods by which a section of the youth began to demand independence. They resorted to armed conflict, either singly or in groups or by allying with the enemies of Britain. There was a spurt of incidents when British officials were violently and deliberately murdered. In very many cases when these revolutionaries were put on trial and sometimes hanged, it was clear from their statements in court that the revolutionary fire burning within their hearts was eager to engulf the whole nation. The need for creating a revolutionary spirit in the country at large was strongly felt, as also to strike terror into the hearts of the British tyrants. It was this need which produced the Saga of Indian Revolutionaries.

*We have referred among others to the following books in preparing this volume:*

1. Ajeya (Kannada) — Babu Krishnamurthy, 1974
2. Lokmanya Tilak — Dhananjay Keer, 1959
3. The Roll of Honour — Kali Charan Ghosh, 1965
4. Savarkar and His Times — Dhananjay Keer
5. The Sedition Committee Report — Government of India, 1918
6. Story of Indian Revolution — A.C. Guha, Ed., 1972
7. Swadeshi Movement in Bengal 1903-1906 — Sumit Sarkar, 1973
8. Two Great Indian Revolutionaries — Uma Mukherjee, 1966
9. Vasudeo Balvant Phadke — V.S. Joshi, 1959



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**WINNISHITHIRA'S RAJASOOWA YAJNA**

# THE MARCH TO FREEDOM

## The Saga of Indian Revolutionaries

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OCTOBER 27, 1879, PUNE. VASUDEO BALWANT PHADKE, THE FIRST OF OUR REVOLUTIONARIES STOOD TRIAL IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT. HE WAS CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO WAGE WAR AGAINST THE QUEEN EMPRESS.

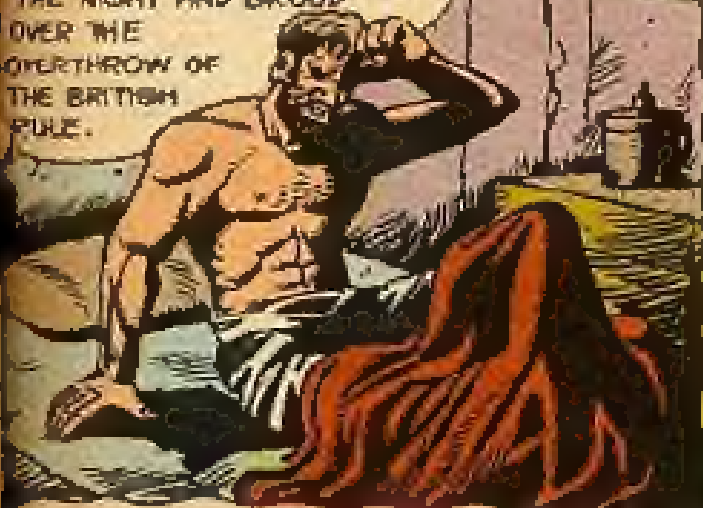
THE GOVERNMENT PROSECUTOR QUOTED FROM THE DIARY IN WHICH PHADKE HAD RECORDED HIS THOUGHTS.

THE INHABITANTS OF INDIA ARE STARVING TO DEATH UNDER BRITISH RULE...

... THESE DYING PEOPLE ARE LIKE THE CHILDREN BORN TO THE SAME MOTHERLAND TO WHICH I WAS BORN. THAT THEY SHOULD DIE OF STARVATION CRYING FOR FOOD... AND I SHOULD EARN MY PETTY LIVELIHOOD LIKE A DOG I CANNOT BEAR...

THINKING DAY AND NIGHT OF THIS AND A THOUSAND OTHER MISERIES... I USED TO WAKE UP IN THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT AND BROOD OVER THE OVERTHROW OF THE BRITISH RULE.

... UNTIL I WENT ALMOST MAD WITH THE IDEA.

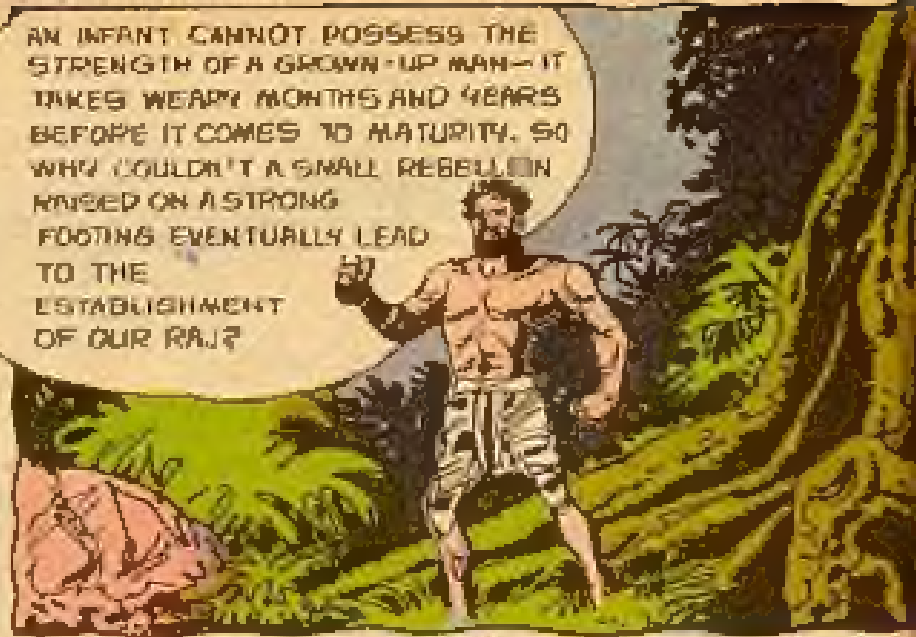




THE ONE PASSION WITH  
VASUDEO DHADKE WAS  
TO OVERTHROW THE  
BRITISH GOVERNMENT  
IN INDIA. IN HIS  
DIARY HE WRITES: —



AN INFANT CANNOT POSSESS THE  
STRENGTH OF A GROWN-UP MAN— IT  
TAKES WEARY MONTHS AND YEARS  
BEFORE IT COMES TO MATURITY. SO  
WHY COULDN'T A SMALL REBELLION  
RAISED ON A STRONG  
FOOTING EVENTUALLY LEAD  
TO THE  
ESTABLISHMENT  
OF OUR RAJ?



VASUDEO WON OVER THE RAMOSHIS,  
A COMMUNITY OF WARRIORS, SUPPLIED  
THEM WITH ARMS AND INSTIGATED  
THEM TO RAID THE HOUSES OF  
THE RICH.



LATER DHADKE WON OVER THE  
WAR-LIKE ROHILLAS. HIS PLAN  
IS EVIDENT FROM WHAT HE  
HAD WRITTEN IN HIS  
DIARY:

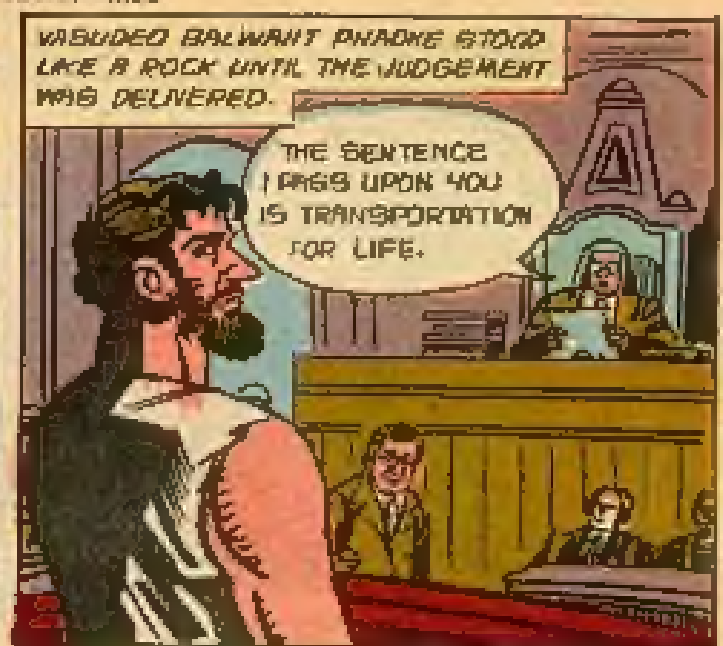


I WOULD HAVE SENT MY MEN TO DIFFERENT PARTS  
OF THE COUNTRY TO INSTIGATE A REBELLION. DAYS  
WOULD HAVE BEEN STOPPED. THE TELEGRAPH WIRE  
WOULD HAVE BEEN CUT. RAILWAY LINES WOULD HAVE  
BEEN BROKEN DOWN. THOUSANDS OF OUR COUNTRY  
MEN WOULD HAVE JOINED US  
TO ESTABLISH AN  
INDIAN REPUBLIC.





"FORTUNATELY, YOUR HONOUR, PHADKE'S DREAM NEVER CAME TRUE. HE WAS OVERPOWERED AND CAPTURED BY MAJOR DANIELL."



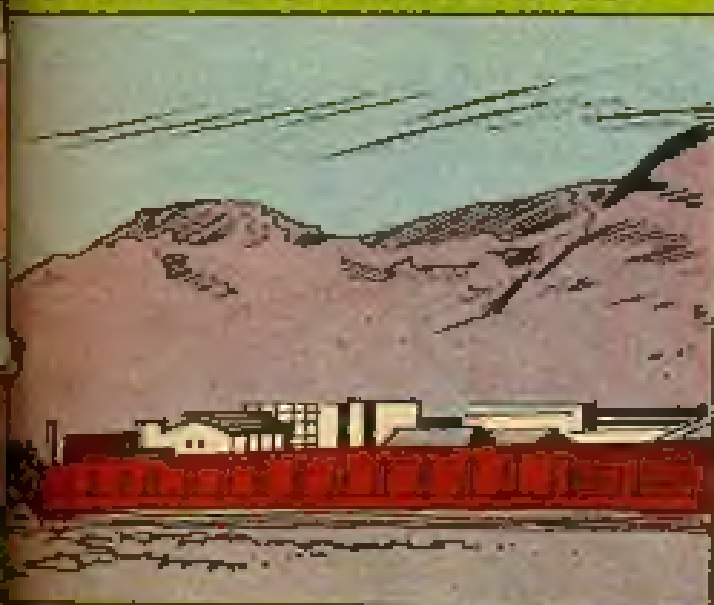
VASUDEO BALWANT PHADKE STOOD LIKE A ROCK UNTIL THE JUDGEMENT WAS DELIVERED.

THE SENTENCE I PASS UPON YOU IS TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.



OH, MY COUNTRYMEN, YOU HAVE NOT DERIVED ANY BENEFIT FROM ME. I COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH MY TASK. PLEASE PARDON ME FOR MY FAILURES.

VASUDEO PHADKE WAS SENT TO JAIL IN ADEN, A BRITISH COLONY, IN THE MIDDLE EAST.



HE ESCAPED FROM THE JAIL ONLY TO BE CAPTURED AGAIN AND DETAINED TILL HIS DEATH ON FEBRUARY 17, 1883.

TODAY AT SHIRDIION, HIS BIRTHPLACE, STANDS A MEMORIAL PILLAR WITH A FLAME BLAZING ATOP.



THE WORDS OF PHADKE MADE A DEEP IMPRESSION IN THE HEARTS OF PATRIOTS, PARTICULARLY IN MAHARASHTRA. ON JUNE 12, 1897, AT THE SHIVAJI FESTIVAL BEING CELEBRATED IN PUNE —

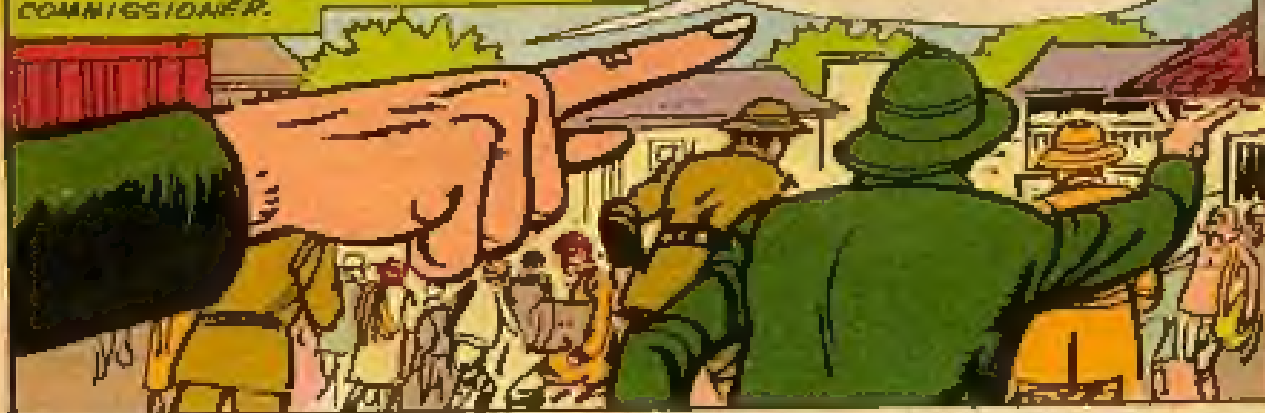
MERELY RECITING SHIVAJI'S STORY LIKE A PARROT WILL NOT BRING INDEPENDENCE... YOU MUST TAKE UP THE SWORD AND FIGHT...



THE SPEAKER WAS DAMODAR HARI CHAPEKAR.

DAMODAR CHAPEKAR WAS A WITNESS TO THE HUMILIATIONS HIS COUNTRYMEN WERE SUBJECTED TO BY RAND, WHO HAD BEEN DESIGNATED AS THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

ALL THOSE SUSPECTED OF PLAGUE ARE TO BE SENT TO THE SEGREGATION CAMP. EXAMINE THEM CAREFULLY. STRIP THESE MEN AND WOMEN.



MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE DRAGGED OUT OF THEIR HOMES AND DRIVEN TO THE SEGREGATION CAMP.

MY COUNTRYMEN ARE INNOCENT AND FRIGHTENED. RAND PUSHES THEM AROUND AS IF THEY WERE A HERD OF CATTLE. HE MUST NOT GO UNPUNISHED.



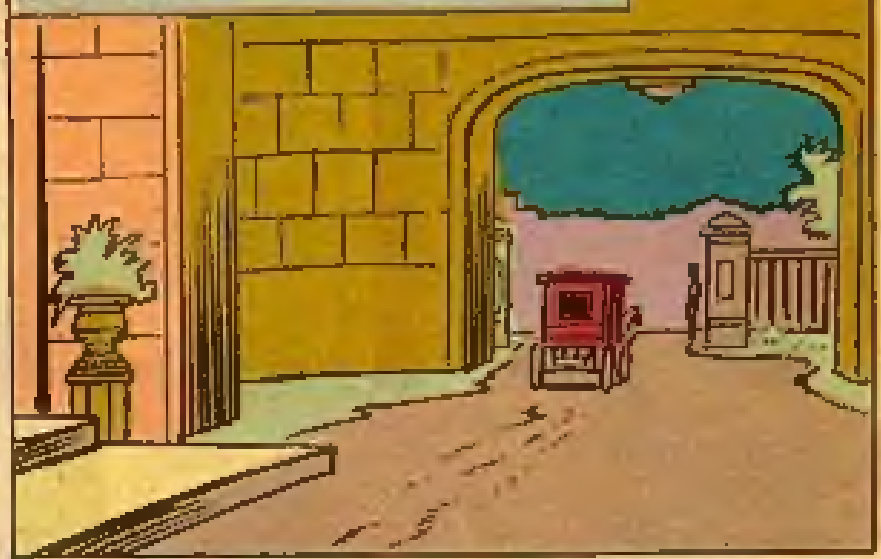
DAMODAR AND A BAND OF YOUNG MEN INCLUDING HIS TWO BROTHERS PRACTISED TARGET SHOOTING.



THE DAY CHAPEKAR CHOSE TO STRIKE WAS JUNE 22, 1897. ON THE DAY THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S REIGN WAS TO BE CELEBRATED IN PUNE.



RAND DROVE OUT OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE AFTER THE PARTY.



AS THE CARRIAGE APPROACHED THE HIDEOUT OF THE CHAPEKAR BROTHERS, BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR CALLED OUT --



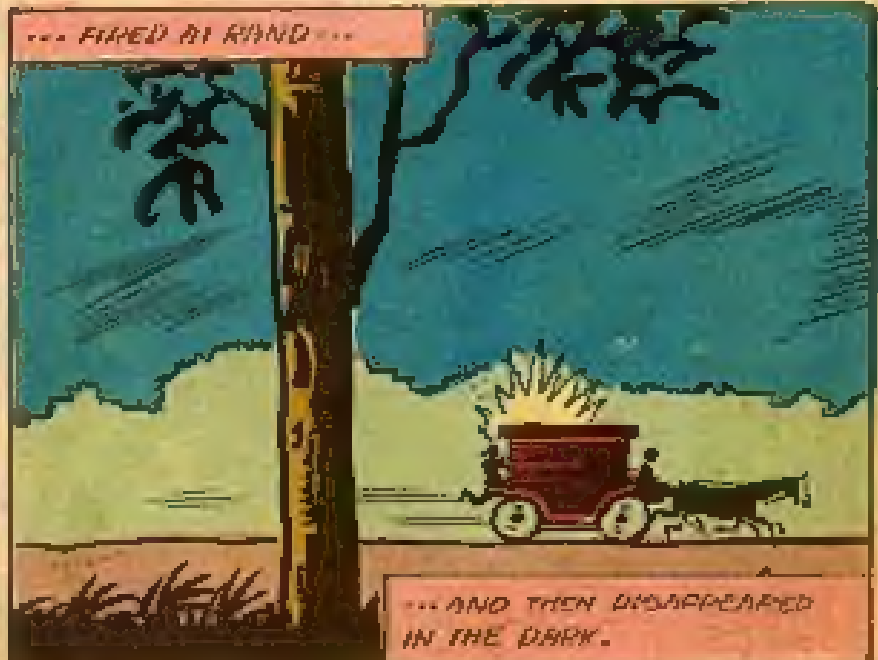
DAMODAR RAN AFTER THE CARRIAGE...



-- CLIMBED ON TO THE BACK OF IT AND --



... FIRED AT RAND ...



... AND THEN DISAPPEARED IN THE DARK.



A FEW MONTHS LATER, DAMODAR AND BALKRISHNA WERE ARRESTED. SUBSEQUENTLY VASUDEO, THE THIRD BROTHER AND HIS ASSOCIATE PANADE\* WERE ALSO TAKEN PRISONERS.



\* VASUDEO AND PANADE HAD KILLED THE DRAVID BROTHERS WHO HAD HELPED THE POLICE ARREST BALKRISHNA.

HOLDING A COPY OF THE BHAGAVADGITA, DAMODAR CHAPEKAR MOUNTED THE SCAFFOLD ON APRIL 11, 1898.



IN MAY, 1899, VASUDEO CHAPEKAR WAS LED OUT OF HIS CELL AS HE PASSED BY THE CELL IN WHICH BALKRISHNA WAS HELD —



GOODBYE, BROTHER — I AM GOING.



MAY 8, VASUDEO CHAPEKAR WAS HANGED.  
MAY 10, PANADE WAS HANGED.  
MAY 12, BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR WAS HANGED.

LATER SISTER NIVEDITA VISITED PUNE TO PAY HER REGARDS TO THE MOTHER OF THE CHAPEKARS. THE OLD LADY WHO HAD GIVEN AWAY THREE SONS TO THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM REMAINED CALM AND UNCOMPLAINING.





IN 1905, THE BRITISH PARTITIONED BENGAL ON COMMUNAL BASIS AND USED FORCE TO PUT DOWN THE POPULAR PROTEST. WHAT BEGAN AS AN AGITATION FOR A UNITED BENGAL TURNED INTO THE LARGER STRUGGLE FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE COUNTRY. HIRSHANDU GHOSH SAID —

TYRANTS HAVE TRIED BUT HAVE THEY EVER SUCCEEDED IN REPRESSING THE NATURAL LOVE OF FREEDOM IN MAN?

REPRESSSED, IT HAS GROWN IN STRENGTH; CRUSHED UNDER THE NEEL OF A TYRANT...

...IT HAS ASSUMED A MYRIAD FORMS...

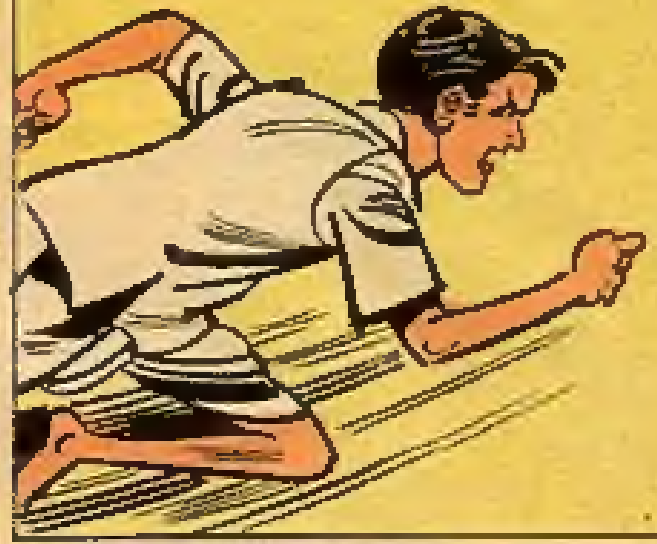
...AND IN SUCCESSIVE INCARNATIONS GAINED IN STRENGTH AND INSPIRATION FROM REPEATED FAILURES AND ENDLESS SUFFERINGS...

...IT HAS RISEN FINALLY, TO OVERTHROW ITS OPPRESSOR FOR GOOD...

THE MEER DID RISE IN REBELLION. GUSHIL KUMAR, A 15 YEAR OLD BOY WHO COULD NOT TOLERATE A BRITISH OFFICIAL HOLDING A LATHI ON AN UNARMED CROWD...



... SPRANG LIKE A TIGER...



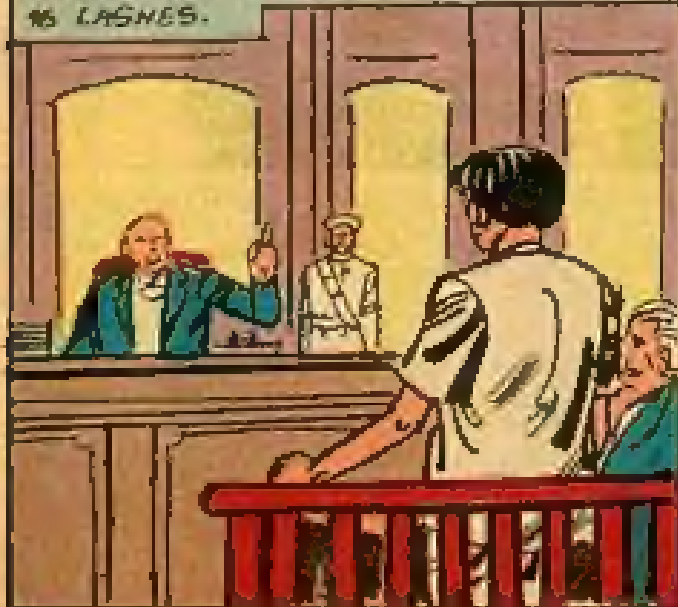
... WRESTED THE LATHI FROM THE HANDS OF THE SURPRISED OFFICIAL...



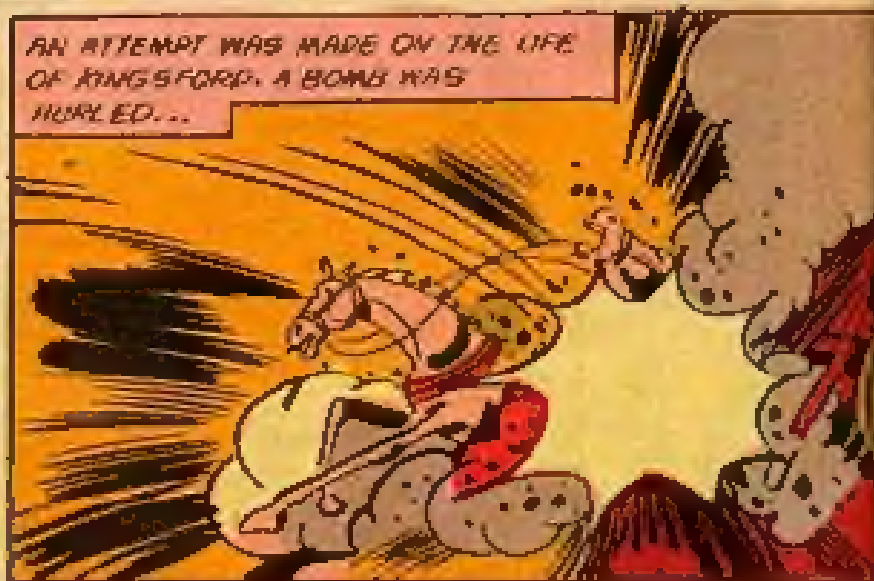
... AND USED IT ON THE BRITISH OFFICIAL HIMSELF.



GUSHIL WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. MAGISTRATE KINGSFORD AWARDED HIM 15 LASHES.



AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON THE LIFE OF KINGSFORD. A BOMB WAS THROWN...



... BUT KINGSFORD BEING IN ANOTHER CARRIAGE ESCAPED UNHURT. TWO BRITISH LADIES FELL VICTIM TO THE FIRST BOMB ATTACK.

MAFULLA CHAKI, A MEMBER OF THE BOMB SQUAD  
SAVED HIMSELF WHEN HIS ARREST SEEMED  
IMMINENT



AND KHUDIRAM BOSE THE OTHER REVOLUTIONARY  
S UUD THIR



IN INMA WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH



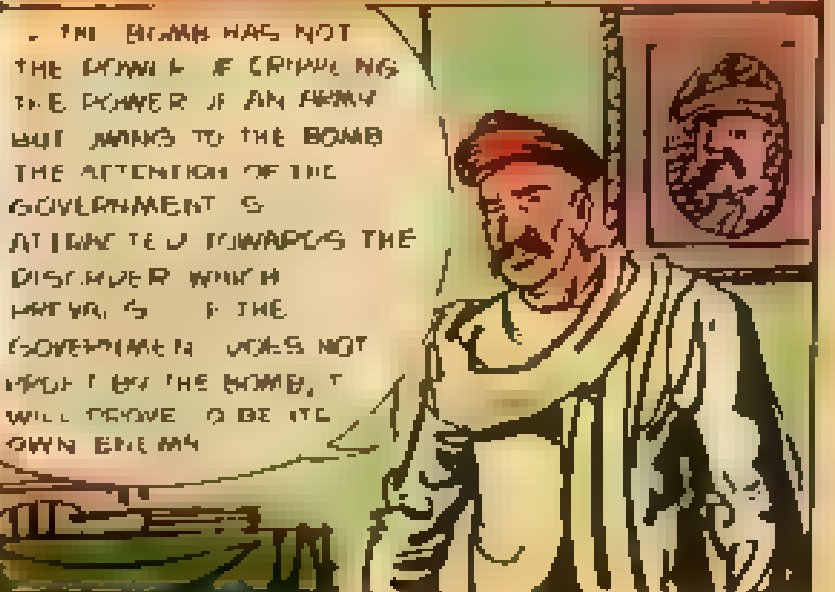
KHIDIRAM'S MARTYRDOM WAS LIKE THE  
EXPLOSION OF A BOMB IT AWAKENED HIS  
COUNTRYMEN FROM THEIR SLUMBER.



HE MET THE SCAFFOLD WITH HIS HEAD  
TILT HIGH HE WAS CHEERFUL AND SMILING  
WITH A FACE OF DEATH



THE GANGADHAR FILM DE LATED



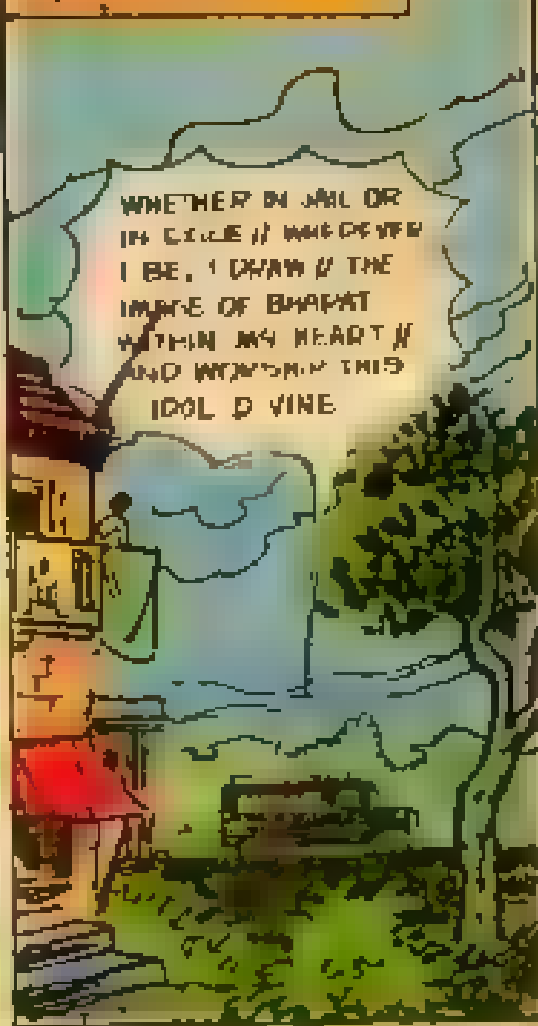


THE POLICE ROUNDED UP A NUMBER OF REVOLUTIONARIES. TWO WERE AWARDED THIRTYFIVE YEARS FOR LIFE AND OTHERS VARIOUS TERMS OF IMPRISONMENT. THE REVOLUTIONARIES BOARDED THE BUS WITH A SONG ON THEIR LIPS.

I LEAVE BEHIND ALL MY HOPES // ALL MY THIRST FOR ACTIONS UNAPPEASED // SUPPRESSING THIS AGONY WITHIN MY HEART // AS I GO TO LIVE IN JAIL.



...AND THEY SANG ALL THE WAY TO THE



WHETHER IN JAIL OR IN CAGE // WHOEVER I BE, I DRAW // THE IMAGE OF BHARAT WITHIN MY HEART // AND WISDOM THIS IDOL D VINE

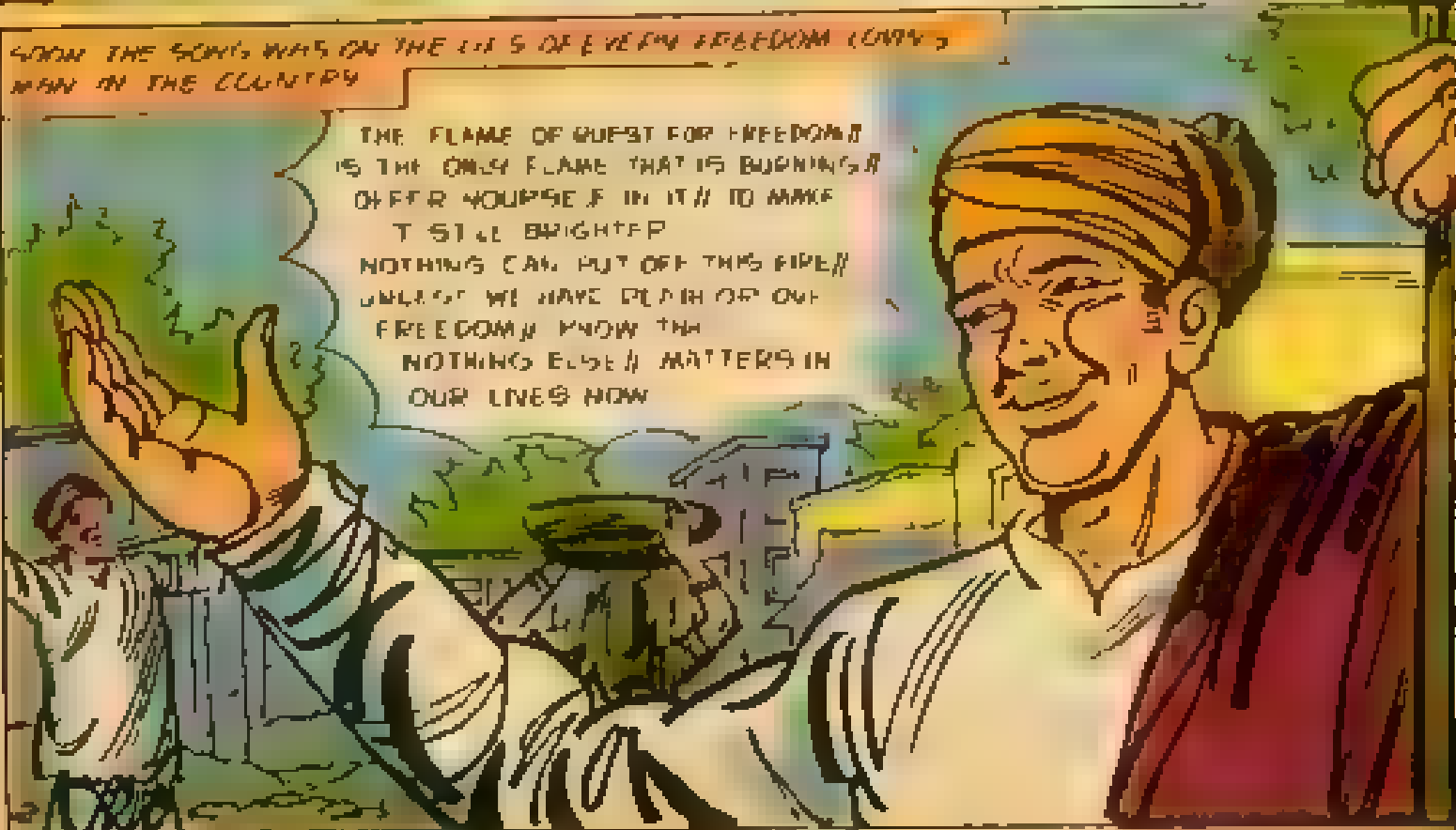
PRISON



THE DAME FATE WHATEVER // MAY COME TO REWARD MY EFFORT // FEARLESSLY I WOULD TELL HER, // YOU ARE NOT WELCOME HERE

WHEN THE SONG WAS ON THE LIPS OF EVERY FREEDOM LOVER'S MOUTH IN THE COUNTRY

THE FLAME OF QUEST FOR FREEDOM IS THE ONLY FLAME THAT IS BURNING // OFFER YOURSELF IN IT // TO MAKE IT STILL BRIGHTER. NOTHING CAN PUT OFF THIS FIRE // UNLESS WE HAVE DEATH OF OUR FREEDOM // KNOW THE NOTHING ELSE // MATTERS IN OUR LIVES NOW



MAHATMA VINAYAK DAMODAR SAVARKAR AND HIS TEAM OF REVOLUTIONARIES WERE OPERATING FROM INDIA HOUSE IN LONDON.

WE HAVE SENT BOMB MANUALS TO INDIA. OUR FRIENDS NEED MORE GUNS.

IN 1907 AT THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONGRESS SAVARKAR'S ASSOCIATE ANJANA CAMI UNFURLED THE INDIAN FLAG.

THIS FLAG, THE FLAG OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE, IS SANCTIFIED BY THE BLOOD OF MARTYRED INDIAN YOUTHS. I CALL UPON YOU, GENTLEMEN, TO RISE AND BATTLE IT.

THE WHITE ASSEMBLY VOYAGED AS ONE MAN

RAJENDRA WROTE THE HISTORY OF THE REVOLUTION IN 1967

THAT WAS NO MISTAKE I WAS THE FIRST WHO FIGHTED FOR INDEPENDENCE

HE REMAINED UNDAUNTED WHEN IN HIS HOME COUNTRY HIS ELDER BROTHER GANESH SAVARKAR WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE. HOWEVER, HE WAS GRANTED TEMPORAL RELEASE AND WAS FREED.

VIOLENCE SHALL BE MET WITH VIOLENCE. THE FUTURE OF MY COUNTRYMEN WILL NOT GO UNAVERTED.

MAHATMA GANDHI SAID THAT NON-VIOLENCE IS THE ONLY WAY TO WIN FREEDOM. BUT SAVARKAR BELIEVED IN VIOLENCE.

UNINGRA DEFENDED HIS ACT.

HE SAID THAT BLOOD ON ENGLISH SOIL INTENTIONALLY AND ON PURPOSE AS A PROTEST AGAINST THE HUMAN TRANSFER AND HANGING OF INDIAN YOUTH.

LATER, IN A STATEMENT HE EXPLAINED:

I BELIEVE THAT A NATION HELD DOWN BY A FOREIGN BAYONET IS IN A PERPETUAL STATE OF WAR SINCE OPEN BATTLE IS RENDERED IMPOSSIBLE TO A DISARMED PEOPLE. THE ONLY LESSON REQUIRED IN INDIA AT PRESENT IS TO LEARN HOW TO DIE AND THE ONLY WAY TO TEACH IT IS BY DYING OURSELVES.

MEANWHILE IN INDIA, JACKSON, THE BRITISH COLLECTOR OF NASHIK, WHO HAD TAKEN GANESH SAVARKAR INTO CUSTODY, WAS SHOT DEAD.



VINAYAK SAVARKAR HIMSELF WAS ARRESTED ON MARCH 10, 1910 AT VICTORIA STATION IN LONDON.



SAVARKAR MADE A DARING ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE WHILE BEING BROUGHT TO INDIA.



HOWEVER, HE WAS CAPTURED AND PRODUCED BEFORE A SPECIAL TRIBUNAL IN BOMBAY IN 1910.

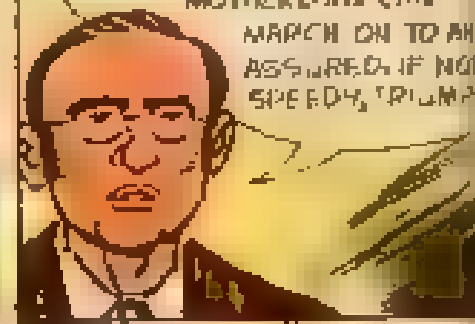
WE FIND THE ACCUSED GUILTY OF ABETMENT OF WAGING WAR BY INSTIGATION, BY THE CIRCULATION OF PRINTED MATTER INCITING WAR, PROVIDING OF ARMS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF EXPLOSIVES.



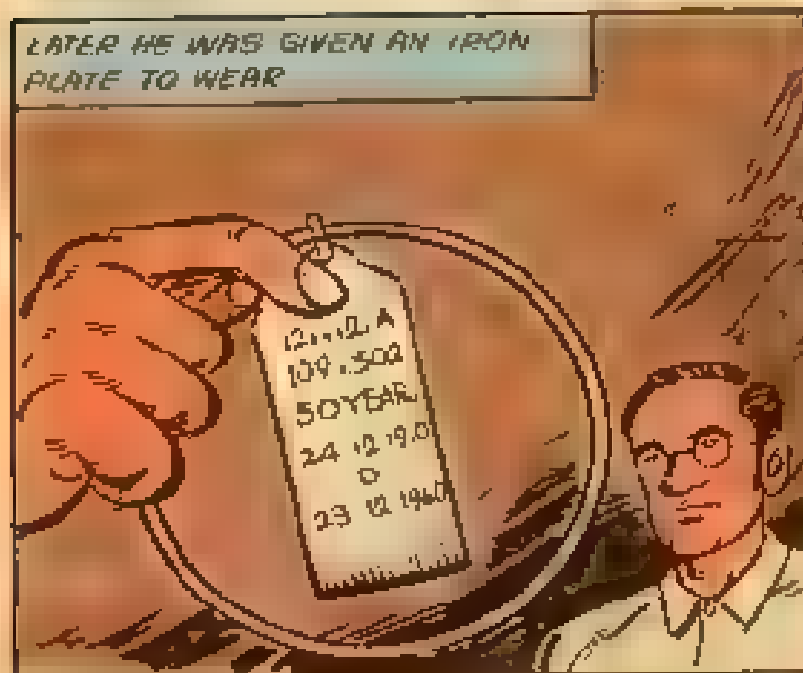
SAVARKAR WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.

AM PREPARED TO PAY UNGRUDGINGLY THE EXTREME PENALTY OF YOUR LAWS IN BELIEF THAT IT IS THROUGH SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE ALONE THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHERLAND CAN

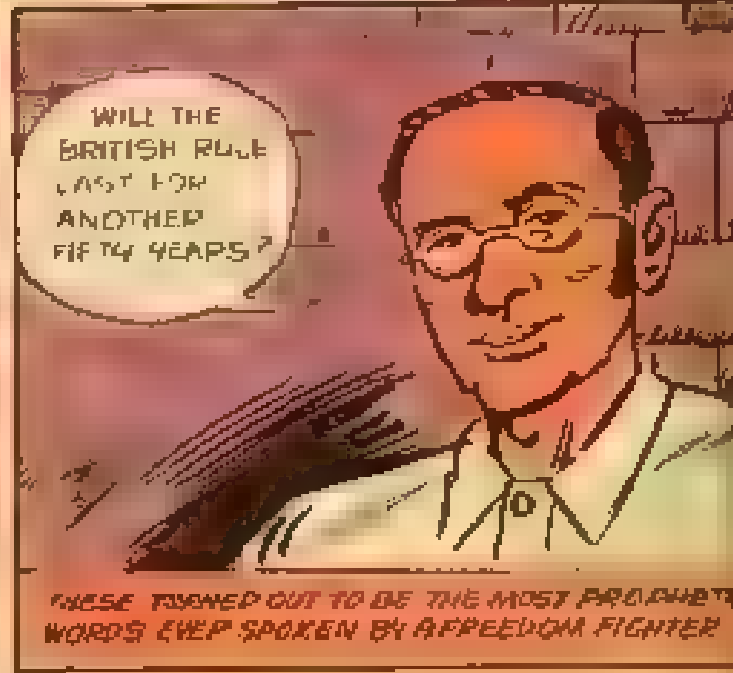
MARCH ON TO AN ASSURED, IF NOT SPEEDY, TRIUMPH.



LATER HE WAS GIVEN AN IRON PLATE TO WEAR.



WILL THE BRITISH RULE LAST FOR ANOTHER FIFTY YEARS?



THESE TURNED OUT TO BE THE MOST PROPHETIC WORDS EVER SPOKEN BY A FREEDOM FIGHTER.

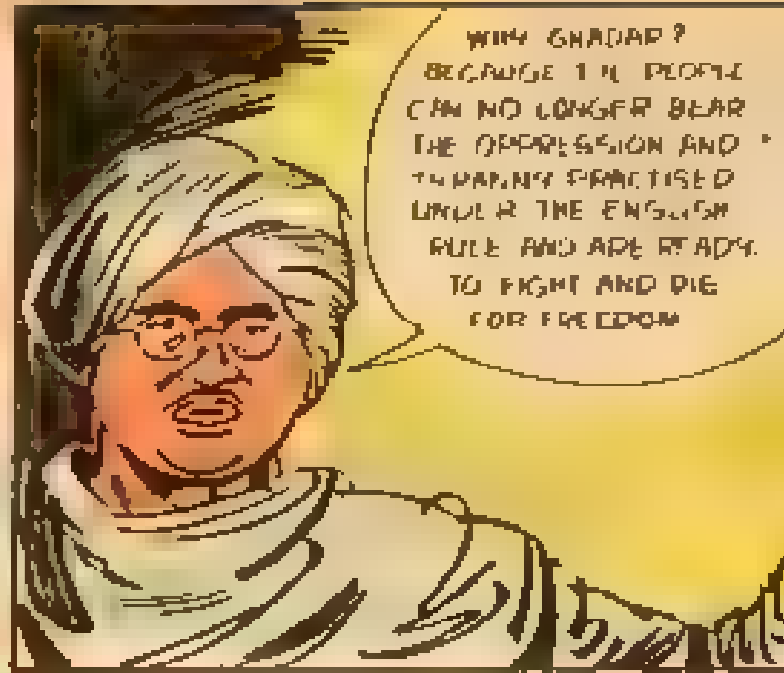


WITH THE DEPARTURE OF 'BAPUJI', LALUJI  
 LEAST TO BE AN INDICATOR THAT LEADS TO  
 A REVOLUTIONARY ANIMAL IT WIE DED PLACE TO  
 SAN FRANCISCO FROM WHERE IN A HANDSOME  
 LAUNCHED THE GHADAR PARTY IN 1913. HE  
 LAUNCHED ITS PUBLICATION "GHADAR."

WHAT IS OUR NAME? GHADAR  
 WHAT IS OUR WORK? GHADAR  
 WHEN WILL GHADAR BREAK  
 US IN INDIA WHEN? IN  
 A FEW YEARS



WITH GHADAR?  
 BECAUSE THE PEOPLE  
 CAN NO LONGER BEAR  
 THE OPPRESSION AND  
 TYRANNY PRACTISED  
 UNDER THE ENGLISH  
 RULE AND ARE READY  
 TO FIGHT AND DIE  
 FOR FREEDOM



LALA HARDAYAL AND HIS FRIENDS  
 CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF INDIA'S  
 FREEDOM IN AMERICA. THEY COLLECTED  
 MONEY, BOUGHT AND SENT HOME ARMS  
 AND AMMUNITION. THEY TRAINED BAKHS  
 TO FIGHT IN WILSON'S  
 FIVE YEARS



AROUND THE TIME A GROUP OF OVER  
 450 SIKHS CHARTERED THE SHIP KOMAGATAMARU  
 TO SAIL FOR CANADA AND SETTLE IN THAT COUNTRY



THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES REFUSED SIKH  
 PASSENGERS ENTRY AND THE SHIP SAILED  
 BACK TO INDIA



WHEN THE PASSENGERS CAME TO CALCUTTA THEY  
 WERE SUBJECT TO MUCH HARASSMENT WITHOUT  
 ANY DOCUMENTATION THE POLICE ORDERED THEM



THE INDISCRIMINATE KILLING OF THE INNOCENT  
SUKHS OF ROMAGATAMARU HAD ITS  
REPERCUSSIONS IN AMERICA.

WE ARE NOW READY  
TO RETURN TO OUR  
COUNTRY, TO  
SHOOT AND KILL  
OUR  
OPPRESSORS.



IN INDIA THE STAGE WAS SET FOR AN ARMED  
UPRISING UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF RASH  
BEHARI BOSE IN LAHORE

THE TIME IS CERTAINLY  
RIPE FOR AN ARMED  
UPRISING AS  
BRITAIN IS BUSY  
WITH THE WAR IN  
EUROPE



RASH BEHARI AND HIS COMRADES  
PLANNED A MASS UPRISING IN THE NORTH-  
EAST ON FEBRUARY 21, 1915.

TWENTY SIX CANTONMENTS  
ARE PREPARING  
TO REVOLT



THE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN  
INSTRUCTED TO CAPTURE  
THEIR ENGLISH OFFICERS  
LOOT THE TREASURES. THE  
GHADAR MEN WILL LAUNCH  
A SIMULTANEOUS  
ATTACK



IN CALCUTTA, JATIN MUKHERJI, THE LEADER  
OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES, HAD SET UP A  
COMPANY TO CAMOUFLAGE ACTIVITIES.

YOU ARE NO LONGER  
WORKING FOR THE  
GOVERNMENT, I  
HEARD.

I'M NOT I'M GOING  
INTO BUSINESS  
THAT'S MY FIRM  
DECISION.  
BUILDERS AND  
CONTRACTORS.

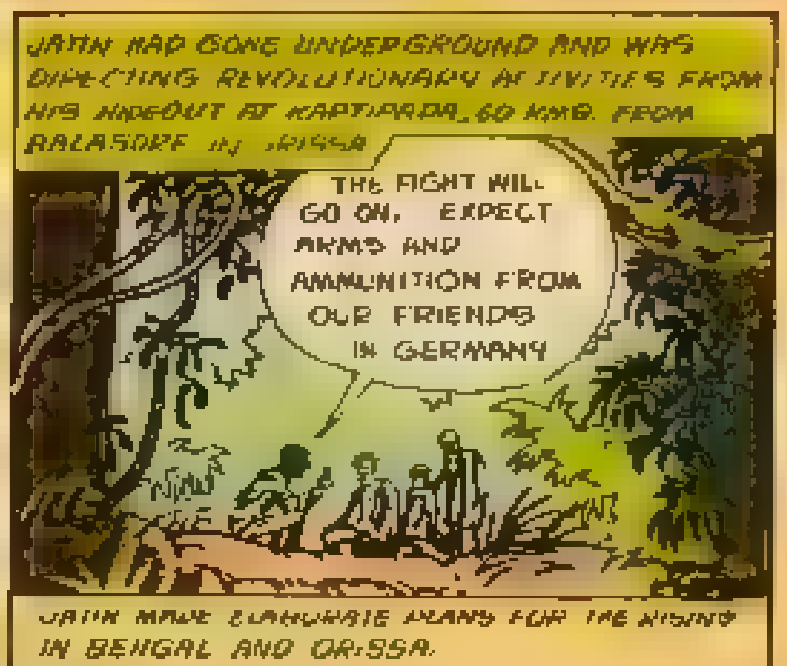
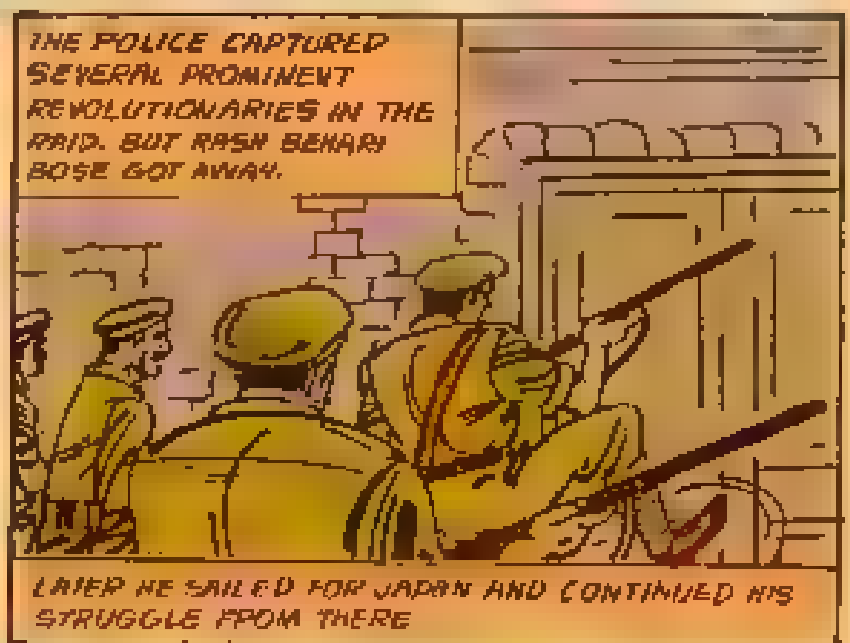
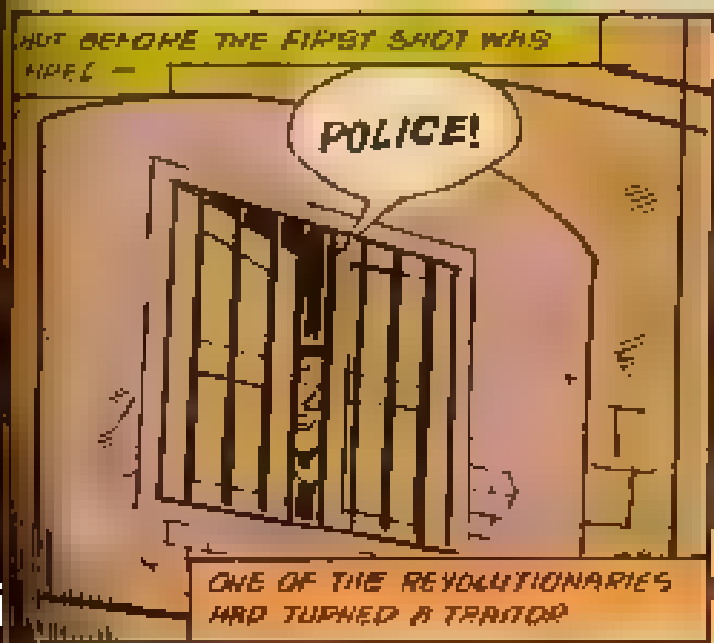
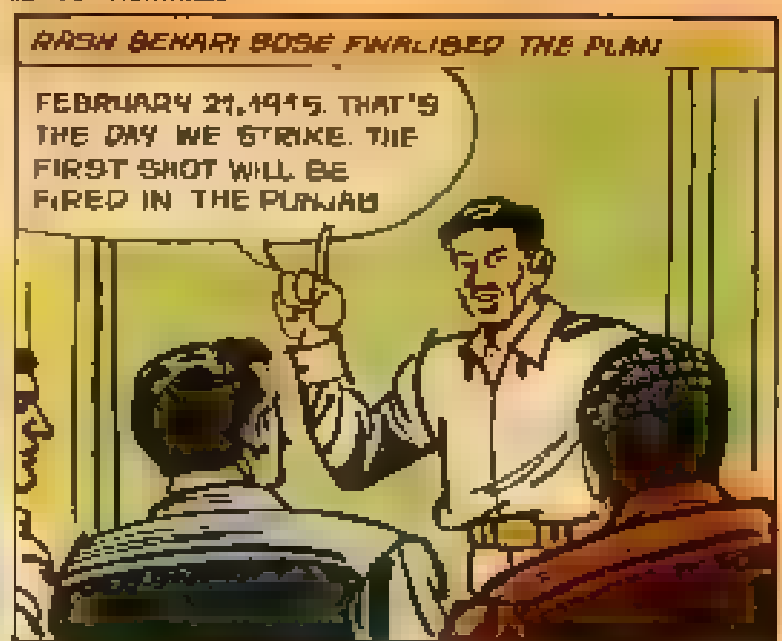


HE WAS IN CONTACT WITH RASH BEHARI BOSE  
THEN ACTIVE IN PUNJAB.

HOW IS THE BUILDING  
WORK GOING ON IN  
THE PUNJAB?

OUR  
PEOPLE ARE  
ASKING FOR  
MORE  
MATERIAL







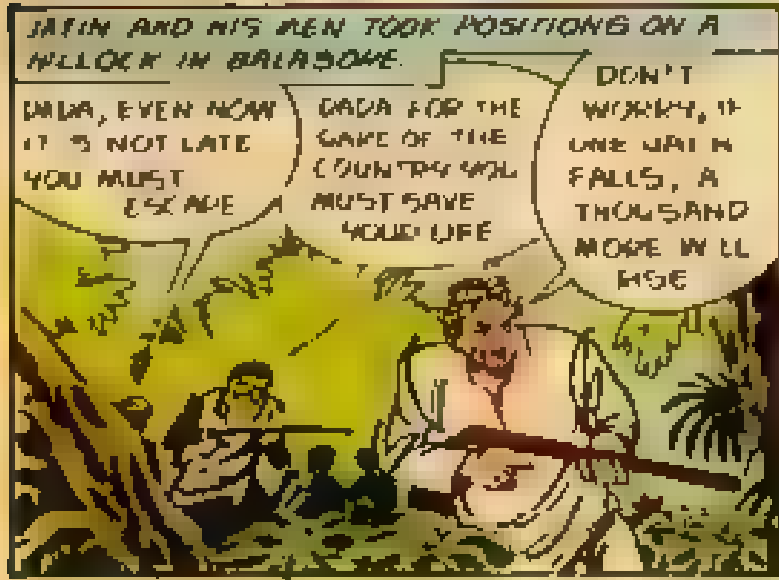


JATIN'S ASSOCIATES HAD OPENED A COMPANY IN CALCUTTA TO SMUGGLE ARMS INTO THE COUNTRY

HOWEVER, PLANS TO BRING ARMS BY THE SHIP JARNETEX FAILED TO MATERIALISE THE POLICE WHO RAIDED HARRY & CO. FOUND A CLUE WHICH PUT THEM ON JATIN'S TRAIL



WE WILL SOON HAVE LUMINA



JATIN AND HIS MEN TOOK POSITIONS ON A HILLOCK IN BALASORE.

DADA, EVEN NOW IT'S NOT LATE YOU MUST ESCAPE

DADA FOR THE CAKE OF THE COUNTRY YOU MUST SAVE YOUR LIFE

DON'T WORRY, IF ONE JAIN FALLS, A THOUSAND MORE WILL RISE

IN THE BLOODY SHOOTING THAT FOLLOWED, THE POLICE SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES. CHITRAHARA ONE OF JATIN'S CLOSE BODYGUARDS WAS SHOT DEAD. JATIN DREW HIS DEAD BODYGUARD'S HEAD ONTO HIS LAP AND CONTINUED TO SHOOT

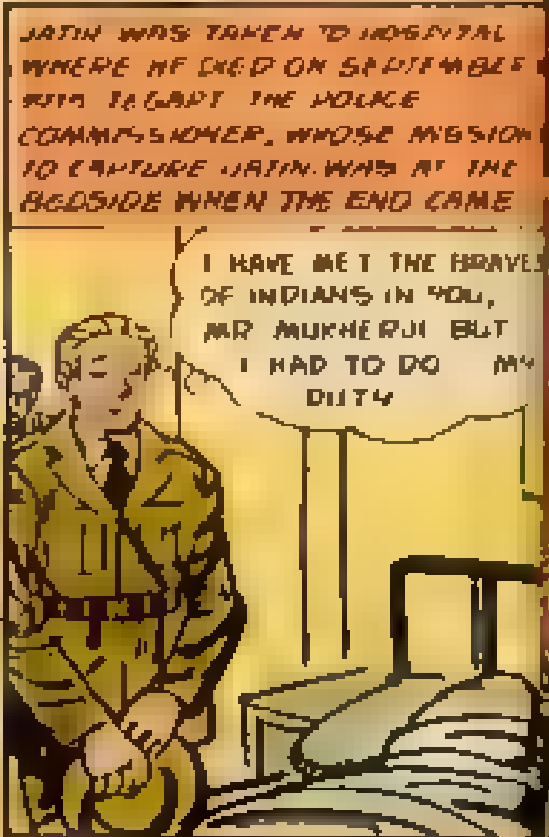


SHOOTING WAS OVER

I THINK THEY HAVE EXHAUSTED THE BULLETS.



OH GOD, WHAT A GHOSTLY SIGHT




JATIN WAS TAKEN TO HOSPITAL WHERE HE DIED ON SEPTEMBER 20TH 1947. THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, WHOSE MISSION TO CAPTURE JATIN WAS AT THE BEDSIDE WHEN THE END CAME

I HAVE MET THE BRAVES OF INDIANS IN YOU, MR. MUKHERJI BUT I HAD TO DO MY DUTY

THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS  
WERE ALARMED AT THE  
INCREASING NUMBER OF  
REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES  
AND EVERY ONE  
SENTENCED, THEN GET  
WAY FOR WANT OF  
EVIDENCE



WE NEED STRINGENT  
LAWS TO PUT THESE  
TERRORISTS  
BEHIND BARS




THE GOVERNMENT  
APPOINTED A COMMISSION  
UNDER MR ROWLATT TO  
STUDY REVOLUTIONARY  
ACTIVITIES AND TO SUGGEST  
WAYS AND MEANS TO  
DEAL WITH THEM

THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THE  
RECOMMENDATION OF ROWLATT  
COMMISSION AND IN 1919 CAME OUT  
WITH THE INFAMOUS ROWLATT ACTS

GOVT NOW WE  
HAVE AUTHORITY  
TO ARREST ANY  
ONE ON mere  
SUSPICION

NO NEED TO  
TRY HIM IN COURT  
NO ONE TO QUESTION  
US. JUST DUMP HIM  
IN THE CELLAR  
GOOD




HOWEVER OUR COUNTRYMEN UNDER  
THE LEADERSHIP OF GANDHI  
PROTESTED AGAINST THE BULKY  
LAWS AND HELD PROTEST  
MEETINGS



IT WAS AT ONE SUCH PEACEFUL MEETING AT  
JALLIANWALLA BAGH IN AMRITSAR THAT  
GENERAL DYER OPENED FIRE




DYER'S MEN CEASED FIRING ONLY WHEN  
THEY RAN OUT OF AMMUNITION THEY  
WITHDREW LEAVING BEHIND A  
THOUSAND MEN DEAD AND THREE  
TIMES THAT NUMBER WOUNDED



A TWELVE YEAR OLD BOY VISITED JALIANWALLA BAGH AND COLLECTED SAMPLES OF THE BLOOD SOAKED EARTH

THIS EARTH IS SACRED THIS IS SOAKED WITH THE BLOOD OF MARTYRS



THE BOY WAS BHAGAT SINGH

AROUND THE SAME TIME IN DISTANT VARANASI, A YOUNG LAD WAS PRODUCED BEFORE A MAGISTRATE FOR SHOUTING SLOGANS WHEN QUESTIONED -

MY NAME IS AZAD FREEDOM IS MY FATHER'S NAME AND JAIL IS MY HOME



THE YOUNG LAD WAS CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD

THE YOUNGSTERS BECAME MEMBERS OF THE HINDUSTAN REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION, A REVOLUTIONARY ORGANISATION. THEIR LEADER WAS RAHADRASD BISMIL. THE SENIOR MEMBERS WERE CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD, ABHFAQULA, ROSHAN SINGH AND RAJENDRA LAHIRI.

LET'S LOOT THE GOVERNMENT TREASURY WHILE IT IS BEING TRANSPORTED BY TRAIN.



IT WAS THE EVENING OF THE 9TH OF AUGUST, 1925 AT KAKORI, A FEW MILES FROM LUCKNOW IN UTTAR PRADESH -

DON'T ANY OF YOU DARE MAKE A SOUND. NO ONE WILL BE HARMED WE ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN THE STATE TREASURY'S SAFE THAT IS ON THIS TRAIN



THE NEXT DAY

KAKORI CONSPIRACY KAKORI CONSPIRACY!





HOWEVER THE POLICE ROUNDED UP ALL THE REVOLUTIONARIES WHO HAD TAKEN PART IN THE TRAIN ROBBERY EXCEPT AZAD

EVEN IF I HAVE TO FACE DEATH A THOUSAND TIMES FOR THE SAKE OF MY MOTHERLAND, I SHALL NOT BE SORRY OR LORD GRANT ME A HUNDRED BIRTHS IN BHARAT BUT GRANT ME THIS, TOO, THAT EACH TIME I MAY GIVE UP MY LIFE IN THE SERVICE OF THE MOTHERLAND.

SUCH WAS THE FERVOUR OF RAMPRASAD BISHAI

YASADUR KHAN, THE POLICE SUPERINTENDENT TRIED TO WIN OVER ASHFAQULLA

THE HINDUS ARE FIGHTING TO WIN BACK THEIR KINGDOM WHY SHOULD MUSLIMS FIGHT FOR HINDU INDIA?

KHAN SAHEB, I AM QUITE SURE HINDU INDIA WILL BE MUCH BETTER THAN BRITISH INDIA

OF COURSE ASHFAQULLA, BISHAI AND OTHERS WERE FIGHTING FOR ALL OUR COUNTRYMEN ASHFAQULLA WROTE -

A MAN IS BOUND TO DIE SO WHY SHOULD ANYONE BE AFRAID OF DEATH? LET OUR MOTHERLAND BECOME FREE WHAT MATTERS WHETHER WE BE ALIVE OR DEAD?

DEC 18, 1927: RAJENDRA LAL BHATTACHARYA WAS HANGED  
DEC 19, 1927: RAMPRASAD BISHAI AND ASHFAQULLA WERE HANGED  
DEC 20, 1927: ROSHAN SINGH WAS HANGED

THE HANGINGS STRENGTHENED THE WILL OF AZAD, BHAGAT AND OTHER REVOLUTIONARIES THEY CONTINUED THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM ON BHAGAT SINGH'S SUGGESTION, THEY CALLED THEIR ORGANIZATION THE HINDUSTAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION

WE WILL ESTABLISH A SOCIETY WHICH IS FREE FROM EXPLOITATION.

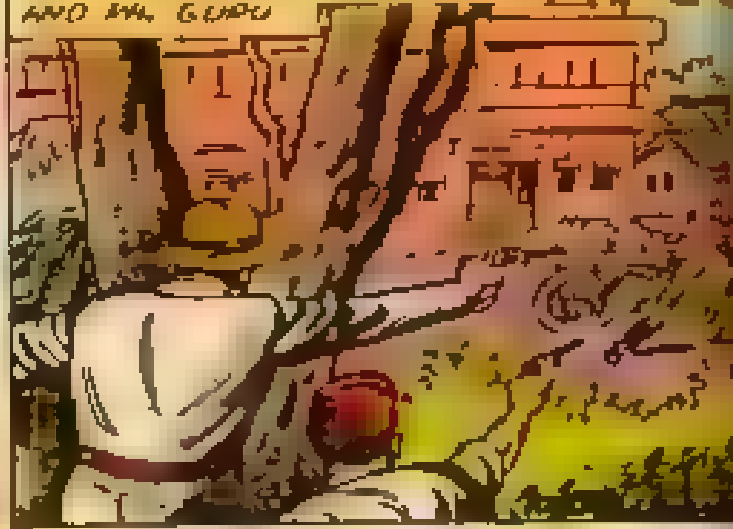
WE WANT FREEDOM FOR OUR COUNTRY. WE WILL NOT BEG FOR IT BUT WILL OBTAIN IT AS OUR RIGHT

MEANWHILE THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS CONTINUED THE NON-VIOLENT STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GANDHI DURING ONE OF ITS DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE SIMLA COMMISSION IN LAHORE



--LALA LAJPATRAI, THE VETERAN FREEDOM FIGHTER, WAS FATALLY INJURED

THE REVOLUTIONARIES DECIDED TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF THE LALA THE MEN CHOSEN FOR THE MISSION WERE BHAGAT SINGH AND RAJ GURU



BY THE FOLLOWING DAY THE WHOLE OF INDIA HAD HEARD OF THE INDEPENDENT FIGHTER'S DEATH AND ALL OVER INDIA



HAD AN  
ASSOCIATION  
OF THE  
COUNTRY  
DEPART  
HART  
WITH A

BLOOD  
FOR  
BLOOD

WHILE HE IS  
DEAD! LALAI'S  
MURDER HAS  
BEEN AVENGED!

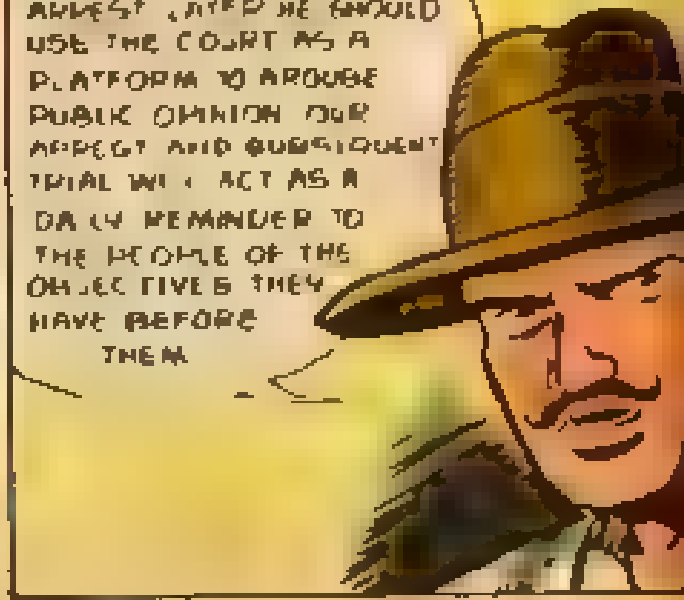
THESE  
REVOLUTIONARIES  
WILL NOT TAKE  
ANYTHING LING  
DOWN NEITHER DO  
THEY MAKE  
EMPTY  
THREATS

BHAGAT SINGH CAME OUT WITH A PROPOSAL TO ARREST THE NATION FROM ITS SLUMBER AND COMPEL THE AUTHORITIES TO TAKE NOTICE OF THE DEEP ROOTED DISCONTENT AMONG THE PEOPLE

WE HAVE TO DROP  
A BOMB NOT TO  
KILL BUT TO MAKE  
THE DEAF HEAR



THE ONE WHO THROWS  
THE BOMB SHOULD COURT  
ARREST, THEN HE SHOULD  
USE THE COURT AS A  
PLATFORM TO AROUSE  
PUBLIC OPINION OUR  
ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT  
TRIAL WILL ACT AS A  
DAILY REMINDER TO  
THE PEOPLE OF THE  
OBJECTIVES THEY  
HAVE BEFORE  
THEM

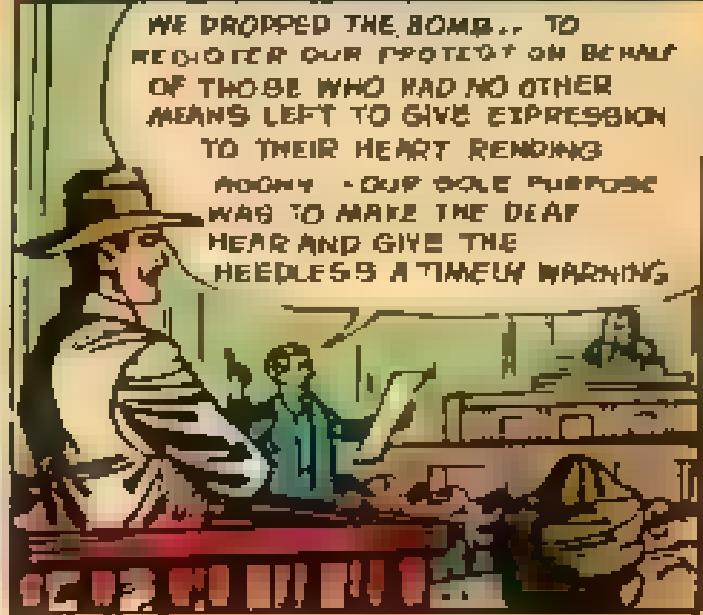


APRIL 8, 1929 WAS THE CHOSEN DATE THE YENJI THE  
 INITIAL ASSEMBLY IN DELHI FROM THE VISITORS  
 ALLIANCE BHAGAT SINGH THROWN A BOMB AND HIS  
 COMPANION BATUKESHWAR DUTTA THREW DOWN  
 CARTRIDGES



THE TWO REVOLUTIONARIES  
 COURTED ARREST ALTHOUGH  
 THEY COULD HAVE EASILY  
 ESCAPED IN THE CONFUSION  
 THAT FOLLOWED

LATER IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT,  
 ASAF ALI, THE LAWYER, READ OUT THE  
 STATEMENT PREPARED BY BHAGAT SINGH.



WE DROPPED THE BOMB... TO  
 REGISTER OUR PROTEST ON BEHALF  
 OF THOSE WHO HAD NO OTHER  
 MEANS LEFT TO GIVE EXPRESSION  
 TO THEIR HEART RENDING  
 AGONY - OUR SOLE PURPOSE  
 WAS TO MAKE THE DEAF  
 HEAR AND GIVE THE  
 HEADLESS A TIMELY WARNING

HANDKISHERIAR READ MANAGED  
 TO ELUDE THE POLICE HOWEVER ON  
 FEB. 27, 1931, THE POLICE TOOK HIM  
 BY SURPRISE IN A GARDEN -  
 "RAED PARK"



READ CONTINUED TO FLEE INSITE  
 INJURIES RECEIVED FROM  
 THE POLICE BULLETS



FOR THIRTY-TWO MINUTES READ HELD  
 THE POLICE AT BAY WHEN HE WAS LEFT  
 WITH ONLY ONE BULLET HE RAISED HIS  
 MISTLE TO HIS TEMPLE AND PRESSED  
 THE TRIGGER



BHAGAT SINGH RAJ GURU AND BUNDEY WERE  
 SENTENCED TO DEATH MARCH 23, 1931 AS BHAGAT  
 SINGH WALKED UP TO THE GALLONS -

YOU WILL KILL US BUT NOT THE  
 PATRIOTISM IN US THE  
 FRAGRANCE OF FREEDOM  
 SHALL RISE FROM OUR  
 PYRES



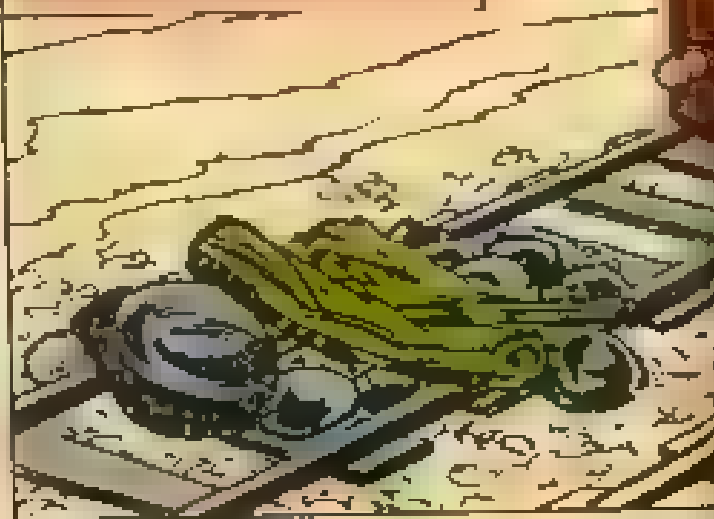
MEANWHILE SURYA SEN AND THE SOLDIERS OF HIS INDIAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ARMY CONTINUED TO HAUNT THE BRITISH IN BENGAL. SURYA SEN HAD STRUCK THE FIRST BLOW ON APRIL 18, 1930 WHEN HIS BOYS SUCCESSFULLY RAIDED THE CHI AGUNG AMMUNITION. THEY COLLECTED ALL THE ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS THEY COULD CARRY AND SET FIRE TO THE REST.



TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WIRES WERE CUT.



AND RAILWAY TRACKS WERE BLOTTED.



MASTERDA, AS SURYA SEN WAS AFFECTIONATELY CALLED, ADDRESSED A MEETING.

CHITTAGONG IS LIBERATED. THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM WILL CONTINUE OUR MOTTO IS - FREEDOM OR DEATH



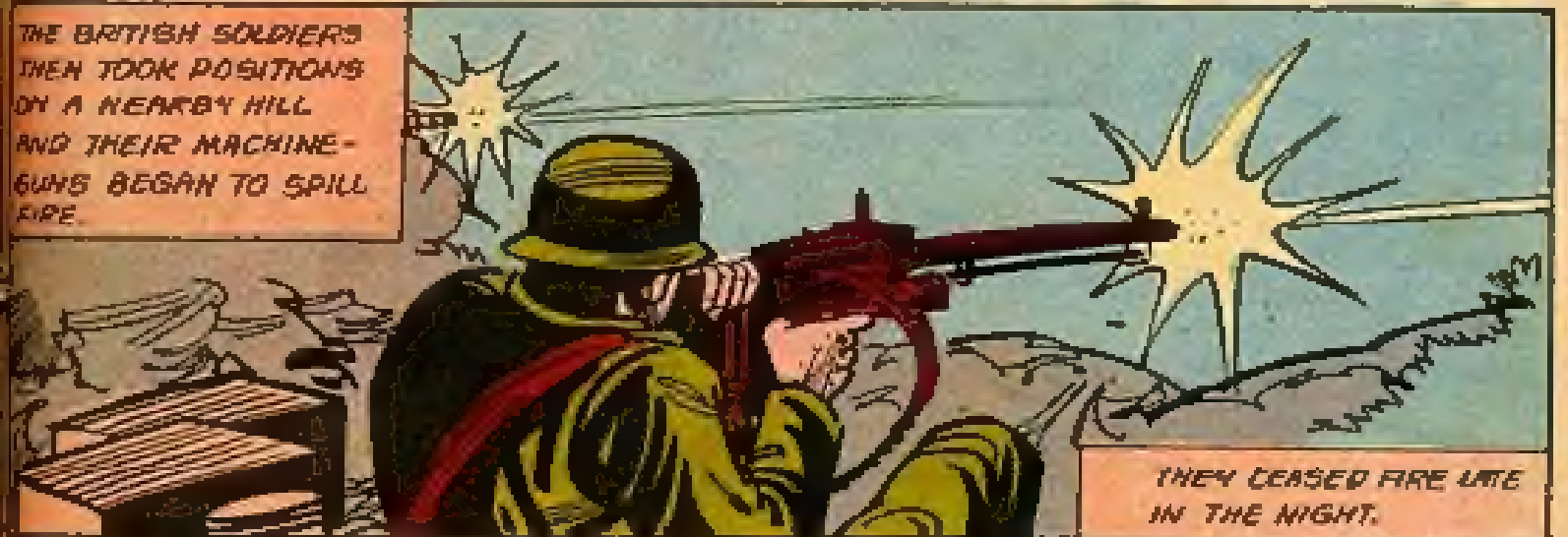
THE BRITISH MUSTERED A STRONG FORCE AND SURROUNDED THE HILLS OF JALALABAD, NEAR CHITTAGONG, WHERE THE FREEDOM-FIGHTERS HAD TAKEN UP POSITIONS. AS THE SOLDIERS CAME WITHIN FIRING RANGE —



HIT BY BULLETS THE BRITISH SOLDIERS TUMBLED DOWN.



THE BRITISH SOLDIERS THEN TOOK POSITIONS ON A NEARBY HILL AND THEIR MACHINE-GUNS BEGAN TO SPILL FIRE.



THEY CEASED FIRE LATE IN THE NIGHT.

THEY CAME EARLY THE NEXT MORNING AND FOUND 12 DEAD BODIES.



MASTERDA AND SEVERAL OTHERS, HAD ESCAPED.

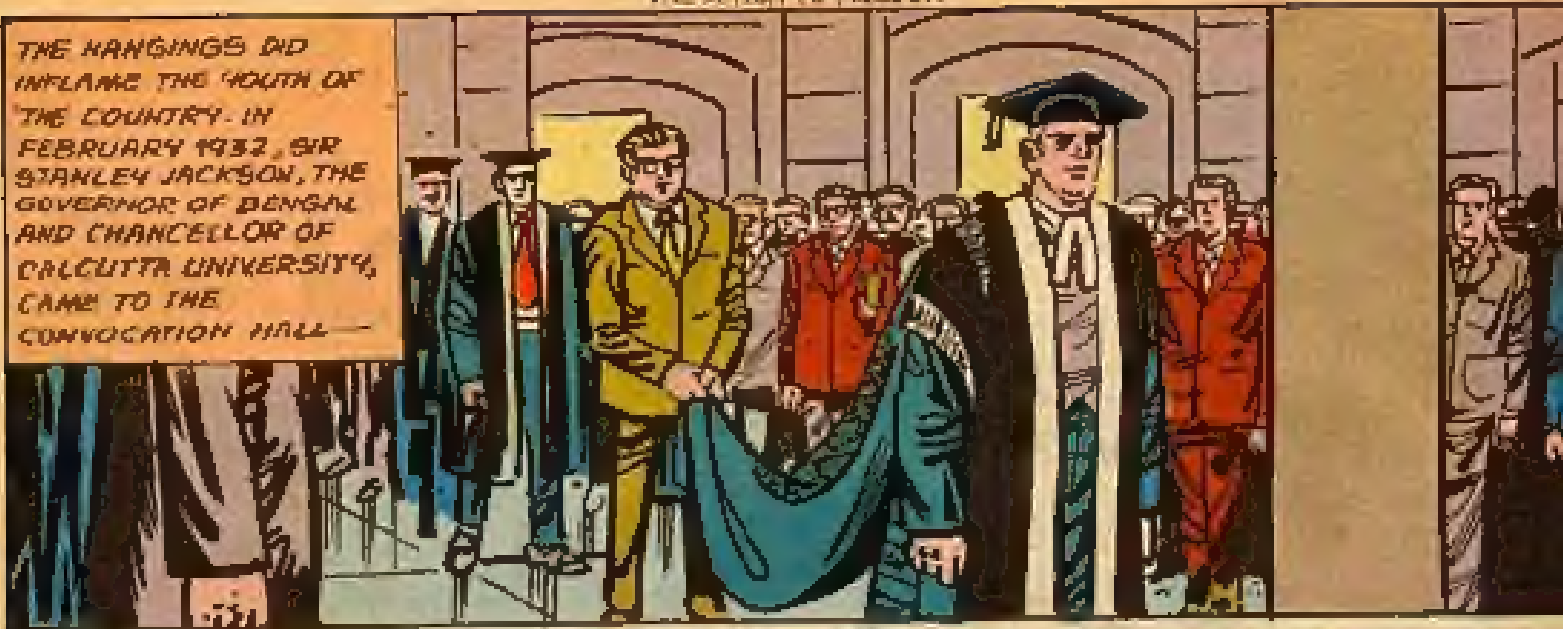
FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS MASTERDA AND HIS GUERRILLA FORCE OF MEN AND WOMEN CONTINUED TO WAGE WARFARE. MASTERDA WAS TAKEN PRISONER ON MAY 19, 1933 AND WAS HANGED ON JANUARY 12, 1934.



BURJA SEN AND HIS COMRADE TANAKESHWAR DASTIDAR WHO WAS HANGED ON THE SAME DAY WERE GIVEN A BURIAL IN THE SEA.



THE HANGINGS DID INFLAME THE YOUTH OF THE COUNTRY. IN FEBRUARY 1932, SIR STANLEY JACKSON, THE GOVERNOR OF BENGAL AND CHANCELLOR OF CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY, CAME TO THE CONVOCATION HALL —



AS HE GOT UP TO DELIVER THE CONVOCATION ADDRESS, A YOUNG GIRL CALLED BHINA DAS, WHO WAS IN HER CONVOCATION GOWN, SHOT AT HIM.



THE GOVERNOR DUCKED AND ESCAPED UNHURT. THE MARSHALLS POUNCED ON THE YOUNG BUT DANGEROUS GRADUATE —



... AND PRODUCED HER BEFORE THE COURT.

IS LIFE WORTH LIVING IN AN INDIA SUBJECTED TO THE WRONG AND CONTINUALLY GROANING UNDER THE TYRANNY OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT...

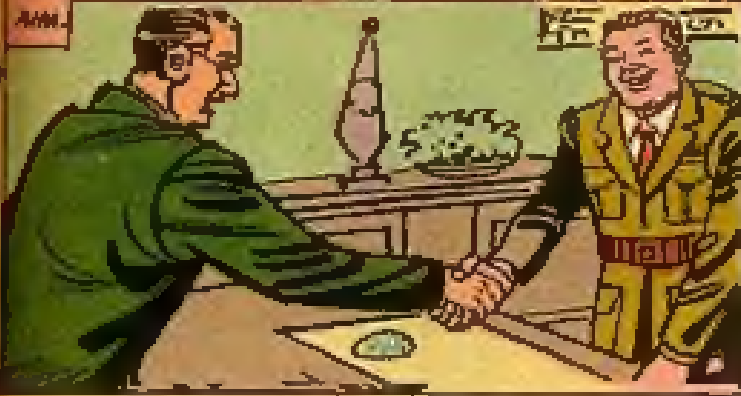


... I BELIEVE THAT A PERSON WHO IS A SLAVE POLITICALLY CANNOT REALIZE GOD WHO IS THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM... IT WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING THIS FACT HOME TO THE MEMBERS IN INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES THAT I SELECTED THE CONVOCATION HALL



BHINA DAS WAS SENTENCED TO NINE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

IN 1915 AFTER THE ABORTED LARISING RASH BEHARI ESCAPED TO JAPAN. WHEN THE SECOND WORLD WAR BROKE OUT, HE TOURED SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BUILDING UP HIS INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY. HE DID NOT HESITATE TO JOIN HANDS WITH THE JAPANESE TO ACHIEVE HIS AIM.



OUR AIM IS TO WIN FREEDOM FOR INDIA. WE WELCOME HELP FROM ALL QUARTERS. WE SHALL FIGHT OUR BATTLES WITH SUCH HELP, IF POSSIBLE, BUT WITHOUT IT IF NECESSARY.



ON JULY 4, 1943 HE HANDED OVER THE COMMAND TO SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AT A PARADE HELD IN SINGAPORE.



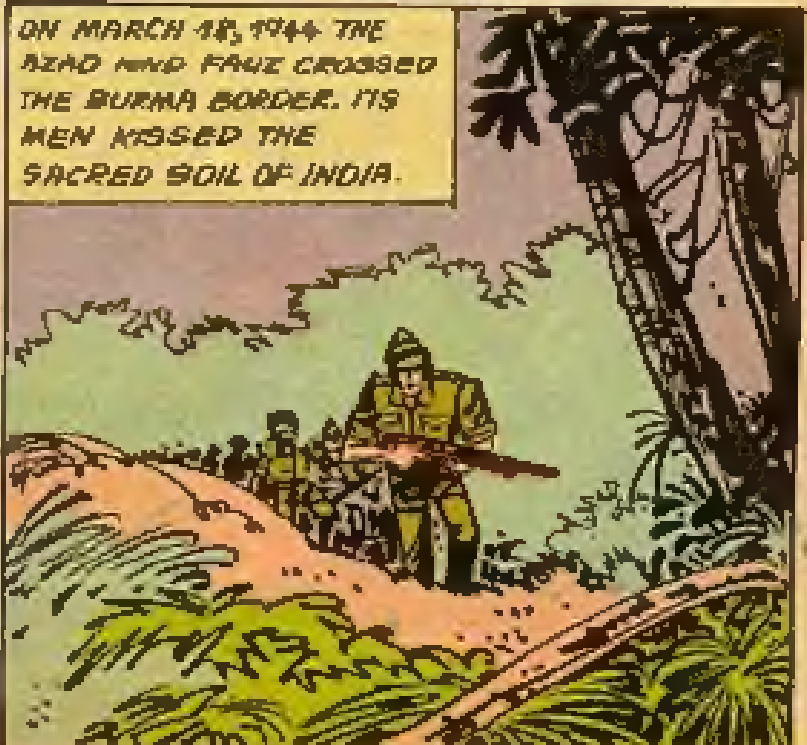
AS LONG AS THERE IS BREATH IN MY BODY I SHALL BE THE SOLDIER THAT I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN — THE SOLDIER IN THE BATTLE FOR MOTHER INDIA'S FREEDOM.

INDIAN SOLDIERS DESERTED THE BRITISH ARMY AND SWELLED THE RANKS OF AZAD HIND FAUJ. NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SET UP A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF FREE INDIA IN SINGAPORE. JAPAN HANDED OVER THE ANDAMANS AND NICOBAR ISLANDS TO AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT.

IT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT THE ISLAND WHERE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WERE HELD PRISONERS IS THE FIRST TO BE LIBERATED.



ON MARCH 18, 1944 THE AZAD HIND FAUJ CROSSED THE BURMA BORDER. ITS MEN KISSED THE SACRED SOIL OF INDIA.



SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ADDRESSED THE AZAD HIND FAJZ.

HARK, INDIA IS CALLING. INDIA'S METROPOLIS DELHI IS CALLING, THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY EIGHT MILLIONS OF OUR COUNTRYMEN ARE CALLING... THE ROAD TO DELHI IS THE ROAD TO FREEDOM.



HOWEVER, THE ALLIES EMERGED VICTORIOUS IN THE WAR. THE AZAD HIND SOLDIERS COULD NOT EXPECT JAPANESE BACKING ANYMORE. THEY WERE ON THEIR OWN.



THEY FOUGHT VALIANTLY.



NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE WAS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN AN AIR CRASH. HUNDREDS OF MEN AND WOMEN DIED FIGHTING. THE SURVIVORS WERE CAPTURED.



THEIR TRIAL WAS HELD AT THE HISTORIC RED FORT. IT AWAKENED NATION-WIDE INTEREST. THE ACCUSED WERE SET FREE.

THE QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT LAUNCHED BY MAHATMA GANDHI CREATED AN UPSURGE. THE SECOND WORLD WAR WHICH HAD JUST ENDED HAD DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES ON THE BRITISH ECONOMY. THE BRITISH CAME TO THE INEVITABLE CONCLUSION THAT THEY COULD NOT HOLD ON TO INDIA MUCH LONGER. WHEN INDIA BECAME FREE ON AUGUST 15, 1947, PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU HOISTED THE TRICOLOUR AT THE RED FORT—THE VERY PLACE WHERE THE AZAD HIND SOLDIERS HAD BEEN PUT ON TRIAL.

